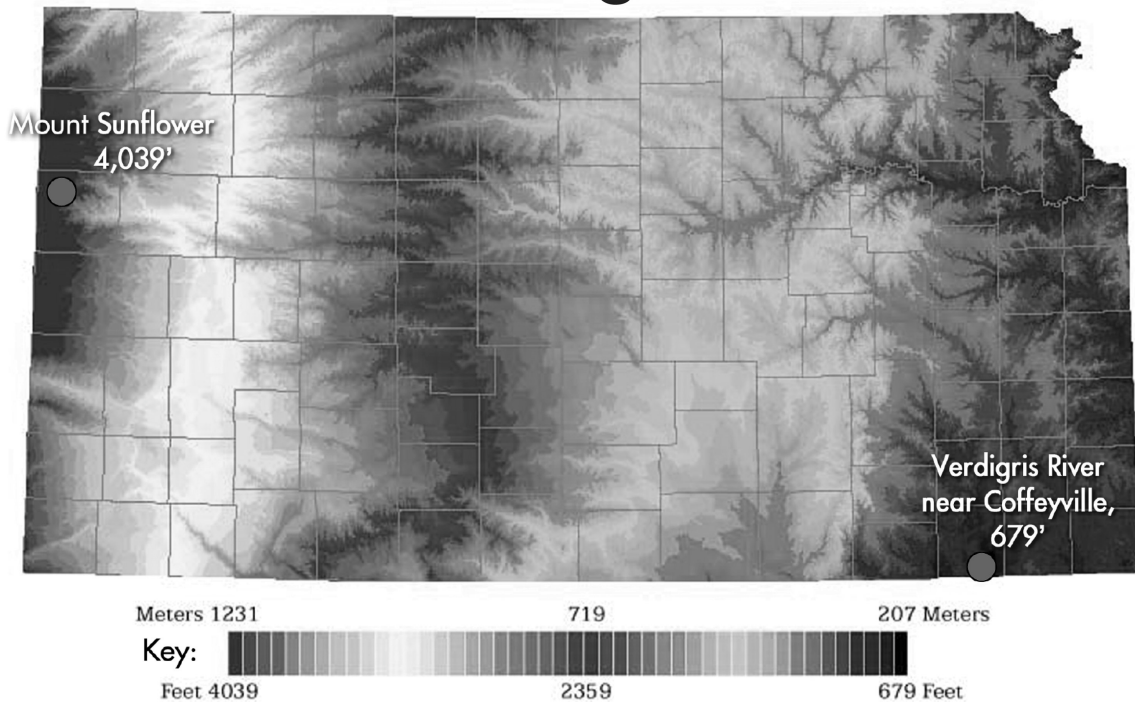


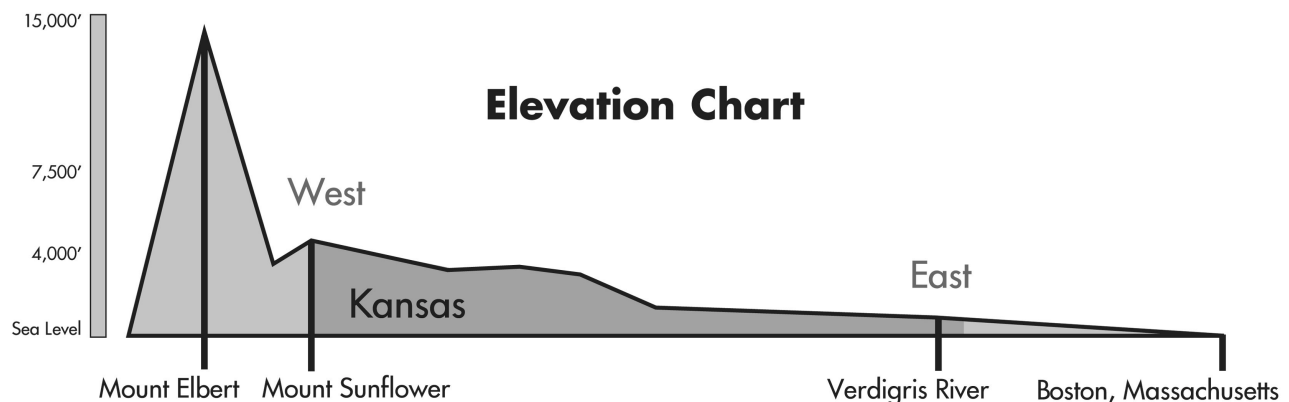
Understanding Elevation



Elevation

● Highest and lowest points in Kansas

The elevation of Kansas gradually rises from about 700 feet above sea level in the east to nearly 4,000 feet in the west. The elevation affects the climate. And climate affects what lives and grows here.



If you took a cross section of Kansas, it would look something like this. A simple definition of a cross section is to look at an object by cutting through it.

How does Kansas compare?

The highest point in Colorado is Mount Elbert in the Rocky Mountains. It is 14,400 feet above sea level. Boston, Massachusetts, is located on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. It lies at sea level.



The highest point in the state is Mount Sunflower located in Wallace County. Why would it be called "Mount" Sunflower?

Higher elevations have fewer resources, like water, timber, and vegetation. Settlers had to adapt. They used buffalo and cow chips (manure) for fuel in place of wood and coal.



In this photograph Ada McColl and her brother, Burt, are gathering buffalo chips. Burt is wearing a dress. In the 1800s this was common for both young boys and girls.